

Meeting January 6, 2014

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Bauer at 7:01pm in Council Chambers at 1 Etze Avenue, Mount Pleasant, PA 15666. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and there was a moment of silence for our deployed troops. President Bauer directed Borough Manager Landy to take roll. Councilman Snyder, Wojnar and Councilwomen Bailey, and Ruszkowski and Stevenson were present. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Wolfe were present. President Bauer stated we have a quorum.

Reading of the Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilman Snyder to dispense with the reading of the minutes of December 2, 2013 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

Public Comment:

Gerard Rendine, 1361 State Route 31, Mount Pleasant PA 15666 thanked the businesses and individuals who sponsored the spaghetti dinner that was held to benefit the families that were left homeless by the fire on Rumbaugh Street in Mount Pleasant.

Speakers: None

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia read the following Police Report for the month of December 2013:

Report of the Mount Pleasant Police Department for the month of December 2013

The Department answered 318 calls during the month as follows

Complaints	69
Requests for assistance	8
Assist Other Departments	8
Accidents investigated	10
Calls Returned	10
Assist Medic 10	13

The Department made 22 arrests during the month as follows

Vehicle Code	16
Crimes Code	6
Borough Ordinance	0
Warning Issued	1

Parking Tickets issued are as follows:

\$4.00 Meter Tickets	0
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets	0
Void / Excused	0

\$1.00 Parking Tickets Paid	\$	-
\$2.00 Parking Tickets Paid		
\$3.00 Parking Tickets Paid		
\$4.00 Parking Tickets Paid		
	\$	
\$5.00 Parking Tickets Paid	1	5.00
\$10.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$ -
\$15.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$ -
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets Pd	0	\$ -

	\$	
Return from Magistrate Eckels	1,504.25	
	\$	
Return from Clerk of Courts	175.11	
	\$	
Return from Report Fees	120.00	
Return from Parking Permits	\$	-
Return from Restitution	\$	-
	\$	
Total	1,804.36	
	\$	
1 Meter Collection	322.99	
	\$	
Total Receipts for the month	2,127.35	

Mayor Lucia announced that if anyone is in need of shelter during the cold weather there were Warming Stations designated at Central Fire Station on Church Street and Medic 10 on Main Street. Mayor Lucia also warned residents not to be outside in the dangerously frigid weather.

Mayor Lucia said that final notices will be sent by B.I.U. to Mount Pleasant landlords who have not had their rental units inspected.

Mayor Lucia read a Certificate of Recognition for Ann Karafa who celebrated her 102nd birthday on December 31, 2013 and still bakes cookies at Harmon House in Mount Pleasant.

Solicitor's Report: None

Tax Collector's Report:

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky read the following report for the month of December 2013:

Property Taxes - \$5,507.82

Per Capita Taxes - \$451.00

Total = \$6,258.82

Ms. Yancosky reminded tax payers that her office is done collecting the 2013 Property Taxes and are now collecting Per Capita taxes only until the new statements are mailed in March 2014.

President's Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to ratify the \$500 donation to the MPVFD for truck raffle tickets. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to ratify the transfer from Standard Bank Budgetary Reserve to PNC General Fund in the amount of \$2,182.97 to close out the DCED Surveillance Camera Grant. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Snyder to appoint Ms. Deborah Ann Salopek to the Mount Pleasant Business District Authority for a 3 year term. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Wojnar to appoint Mr. Dale Walker to the Mount Pleasant Business District Authority for a 3 year term. Motion seconded by Councilman Snyder. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to appoint Ms. Kim Giles to the Mount Pleasant Business District Authority for a 3 year term. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to appoint Mr. Vincent Zaccaria to the Mount Pleasant Business District Authority for a 3 year term. Motion seconded by Councilman Snyder. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to appoint Mr. Al Maida to the Mount Pleasant Borough Parking Authority for a 5 year term. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to appoint Mr. George Wood to the Mount Pleasant Borough Planning Commission for a 4 year term. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to appoint Ms. Phyllis Newill to the Mount Pleasant Zoning Hearing Board for a 5 year term. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to appoint Ms. Kathleen Ceroni-Poleshko to the Mount Pleasant Borough Planning Commission for a 4 year term. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to appoint Mr. Rich Pologruto to the Mount Pleasant Borough Municipal Authority for a 5 year term. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Snyder to suspend the rules for the purpose of a motion to sign an agreement with State Pipe Services Inc. for the project on North Geary Street. Motion seconded by Councilman Wojnar. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Snyder to sign an agreement with State Pipe Services Inc. in the amount of \$62,100.00 to complete the project on North Geary Street. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

President Bauer said that State Pipe Services Inc. will begin the project on January 14, 2014 and it will be completed in two or three weeks.

President Bauer thanked everyone who participated in the borough activities over the Christmas Season.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy said that applications are still being taken for the Veterans Park Digital Wall. Training was completed and we will start entering names this week.

Mr. Landy said that the Borough will have to perform an income survey of Braddock Road Avenue before we can use CDBG funds to pave the street. Mr. Landy said that he spoke to Councilwoman Bailey and she agreed that we will move forward as soon as the weather allows.

Mr. Landy said that if Council is committed to bidding other paving projects in the Borough before spring, we should discuss which streets need to be paved. Hopefully advertisements for bids can be approved at the first meeting in February.

Borough Manager Landy reported that all transfers have been done to balance the 2013 Budget and the 2014 Budget is available for borough department heads.

Mr. Landy met with Westmoreland County Redevelopment Authority regarding moving forward with Penn Park and we will be using county resources to complete the planned parklet and parking lot. Architect Jim Gayton has offered his services free of charge and the Westmoreland County Conservation District has offered their engineering services free of charge. The Borough should be ready to submit plans to the State for their approval.

Borough Manager Landy said that electricians worked on the Early Warning Siren over the weekend and we are moving forward designing the tower for the siren on the roof of the Municipal Building.

Borough Manager Landy said that Phase II of the Storm Water Retrofit Project is complete, final payments will be sent to vendors this week and the project will be closed out.

Waste Water Treatment Report: None

Streets Report: None

Public Safety:

Councilman Snyder read the following Fire Report for the month of December 2013:

Tot calls - 46
In Town - 10
Out of town - 36
10-45's - 24
10-45's w/entrapment - 1
Fires - 17
AFA's - 6
Turnpike calls - 7
Total members answering - 710
Avg member per call - 15
Total staff hours - 375

Councilman Snyder read the following Fire Report for 2013:

Total calls - 516
In town - 131
Out of town - 385
10-45's - 183
10-45's w/entrapment - 12
Fire - 148
AFA's - 85
Turnpike calls 421
Total members answering - 7984
Avg member per call - 15
Total staff hours 5319
Total fire loss - \$165,000

Councilman Snyder said that Police Chief Ober received a letter from Perryopolis regarding the fingerprint machine and they stated that they do not want the machine returned to them. Police Chief Ober said he will send a message to police chiefs in Westmoreland County to see if anyone has any interest in it. Councilman Snyder said that if there is no interest then we will have to throw it away. Mayor Lucia said that the machine is pretty much obsolete because the new technology is so advanced.

Borough Manager Landy said that the Street Department will have to put up barriers on January 14, 2014 to block a section of the street needed by State Pipe Services to dig a trench for the North Geary Street Project and the police will have to enforce the closing.

Community & Economic Development Report:

Councilwoman Bailey said that the Income Survey on Braddock Road Avenue will entail about 20 - 25 houses. The survey is needed in order to receive CDBG funds to pave the street.

Zoning & Ordinance Report: None

Veterans Park Report: None

Parks & Recreation Report:

Councilman Wojnar said he is working to set up quarterly Recreation Committee meetings and will concentrate on Frick Park improvements in 2014.

Finance & Human Resources Report: None

Property Report: None

Sanitation & Recycling Report:

Councilwoman Stevenson said that she received reports that Shop Demo Depot was charging for electronics being dropped off for recycling. Councilwoman Stevenson said that it should have been presented as a possible donation and voluntary. There is no charge to drop off electronics for recycling

New Business:

Borough Manager Landy said that a retail developer is interested in property in the Borough and there should be more information available for the next council meeting.

Councilwoman Bailey said she would like to remind residents and business owners on Main Street that snow must be removed from sidewalks within 24 hours of the snow event.

Councilwoman Stevenson thanked all of the Fire Department Volunteers for the thousands of hours they gave to the department in 2013.

Reading of Communications:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- The Westmoreland Chamber of Commerce - Laurel Highlands Chapter will be hosting "Coffee & Connections" on Tuesday January 28, 2014 and on Tuesday, February 25, 2014 at Amber House at Harmon House beginning at 7:45am. There is no fee for chamber members.

Mayor Lucia said that he is working with Jacobs Creek Faith In Action on their program to check on seniors who live alone. Mayor Lucia said he is meeting with Jacobs Creek Faith In Action tomorrow morning to discuss the program.

President Bauer said that before the meeting is adjourned he would like Council to have a moment of silence for long-time resident Bud Benedict who passed away recently and was involved in several organizations in the Borough.

President Bauer presented Councilman Snyder a plaque to commend him on his years of service on Council.

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

A motion was made by Councilman Snyder to pay all authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruskowski. Motion carried 7-0.

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

A motion was made by Councilman Snyder to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32pm

Motions from January 2014 Meeting

A motion was made by Councilman Snyder to dispense with the reading of the minutes of December 2, 2013 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

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